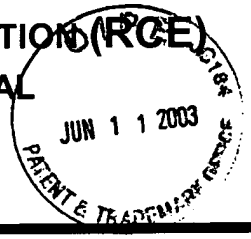
#25 DMT 6-17-03

PTO/SB/30 (05-03)
Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL

Address to:
Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



Application Number	09/306,986
Filing Date	May 7, 1999
First Named Inventor	Thuan Quoc Trinh
Group Art Unit	1652
Examiner Name	Hutson, Richard G.
Attorney Docket Number	0942.4570001/RWE/B-C

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.
Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

1. Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114. Note: if the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unintended amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s).

a. ☐ Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.
 i. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 ii. ☐ Other _____
b. ☒ Enclosed
 i. ☒ Amendment/Reply
 ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 iii. ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 iv. ☐ Other _____

RECEIVED JUN 13 2003 TECH CENTER 1600/2900

2. Miscellaneous

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) required)
b. ☐ Other _____

3. Fees — The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-0036
 i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e)
 ii. ☒ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 iii. ☐ Other _____
b. ☐ Check in the amount of $_____ enclosed
c. ☒ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	LAWRENCE J. CARROLL, PH.D. STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.	Registration No. 40,940 (Attorney/Agent)	
Signature		Date	June 11, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner For Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on the date shown below:

Name (Print/Type)			
Signature		Date	

06/12/2003 CNGUYEN 00000056 09306986
02 FC:1201 750.00 OP

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 (1-800-786-9199) and select option 2.

JUN 1 3 2003
PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED
JUN 13 2003
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Trinh *et al.*

Appl. No. 09/306,986

Filed: May 7, 1999

For: **A Method for Synthesizing a Nucleic Acid Molecule Using a Ribonuclease**

Confirmation No.: 4261

Art Unit: 1652

Examiner: Hutson, R.

Atty. Docket: 0942.4570001 /RWE/B-C

Preliminary Amendment

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Filed concurrently herewith in the above-captioned application is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). Prior to examination of the RCE on the merits, please amend the application as directed herein. This Preliminary Amendment is provided in the format approved in the pre-OG Notice dated January 31, 2003, entitled, "Amendments In A Revised Format Now Permitted," and in the following format:

(A) Each section begins on a separate sheet;

(B) Starting on a separate sheet, a complete listing of all of the claims:

- in ascending order;

- with status identifiers; and

- with markings in the currently amended claims;

(C) Starting on a separate sheet, amendments to the specification by presenting replacement paragraphs marked up to show changes made;

(D) Starting on a separate sheet, the Remarks.

It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), and any fees required therefor (including fees for net addition of claims) are hereby authorized to be charged to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.